Construction Advisory

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When NCHRP 350 Temporary Portable Devices are Required on a Project

A matrix is available at http://www.michigan.gov/mdot/0,1607,7-151-9623_26663_27303---,00.html, under Resources and Publications, for use when inspecting traffic control devices to determine when to use a NCHRP 350 temporary portable device.

According to Section 922.01 of the 2003 Standard Specifications for Construction, "The Contractor must furnish the Engineer with certification that the materials and devices conform to these specifications."

If the matrix states "self-certification", it means the contractor, supplier or manufacture certifies in writing that the device meets NCHRP 350 criteria. These devices have a long history of compliance; therefore, you do not need self-certification unless the device is suspect.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Acceptance Letters for devices meeting NCHRP 350 requirements are available on their website at http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/roadway_dept/road_hardware/wzd.h tm.

Again, if the device used is not familiar to the inspector, request a copy of the FHWA Acceptance Letter from the contractor.

The light on the 4 x 4 diamond shaped sign is currently required on all portable installations. If the sign is driven, the light is required on engineering grade sheeted signs, but not prismatic sheeted signs.

As new devices become available, we will update the matrix



BJO:JKG